

REMARKS

Careful consideration has been given by the applicants to the Examiner's comments and rejection of various of the claims, as set forth in the outstanding Office Action, and favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application, as amended, is earnestly solicited.

Applicants gratefully note the Examiner's indication that at least Claims 7-9 are considered to be directed to allowable subject matter and would be allowed if either rewritten in independent form or made dependent from an allowable claim.

Furthermore, applicants note the Examiner's objections to Claims 7 and 8 in utilizing the term "the latter" as being somewhat ambiguous, and accordingly, appropriate amendatory action has been taken by the applicants to meet the Examiner's requirements in that regard.

Furthermore, applicants note the rejection of Claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), as being anticipated by Dahl, et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,284,951; and the rejection of various other claims as set forth in Paragraphs 6-13 of the Office Action under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the art.

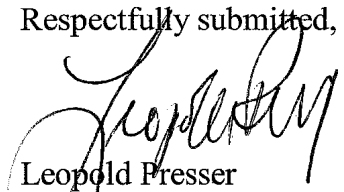
Accordingly, in order to place the application into condition for allowance, applicants have amended the claims by incorporating into Claim 1 the subject matter of allowable Claim 7 and also intervening Claim 6, and by incorporating into Claim 10, the subject matter of allowable Claim 7.

The foregoing, which is deemed to incorporate all of the allowable limitations in the independent claims, and wherein the various dependent claims, in addition to those previously considered allowable, are now dependent from allowable main claims, are also deemed to be in condition for allowance.

On the basis of the foregoing, inasmuch as the claims have been limited to the allowable subject matter, as set forth in the Office Action, the need for any further discussion of the art is deemed to be rendered moot.

Accordingly, in view of the foregoing comments and amendments, which are in full compliance with the Examiner's requirements, the early issuance of the Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited. However, in the event that the Examiner has any queries concerning the instantly submitted Amendment, applicants' attorney respectfully requests that he be accorded the courtesy of possibly a telephone conference to discuss any matters in need of attention.

Respectfully submitted,



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